M

Development (1948) Department.

MS SERIES.

G.O. No. 590

Dated 6-2-48

[Despatch Abstract.]

Agriculture Grow More Food - Rice Conference in South - East Asia - Government of India letter No. F-16-71/47 Policy date 29-2-47. Remarks of the Government of India Madras - Forward Papers - Recorded.

No.F.16-71/47- Policy
Government of India.
Ministry of Agriculture
New Delhi, the 29th December, 1947

From

H.C.Sharma, Esqr., B.A., (Oxen)
Deputy Secretary to the Governmment of India.

To

The Secretary to the Governmment of Madras,
Development Department, Madras.

Sub: RICE CONFERENCE IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA.

Sir,

I am directed to say that at the F.A.O. Preparatory Commission on World Food Proposals which met in Washington in October 1946 the Indian Delegation proposed that s 90% of the rice in the world is both produced and consumed in South East Asia, a Rice Board consisting mainly of the countries with the greatest stake in the problem should be set up in South East Asia to deal with all problems concerning rice viz., those of an immediate character such as allocation ~~prelems~~,and those that require long-range action on production problems, processin marketing and distribution both internal and international. The Preparatory Commission recognized the force of the proposal but as the P.A.O. could not by itself set up a Rice Board it constituted a Rice Study Group in order that it may collect fact concerning rice and prepare an agenda for a Rice Conference of Nations producing and consuming Rice. The decision whether a Rice Board should eventually be formed was to be left to the Rice Conference mentioned above. Accordingly a Rice Study Grou consisting of 9 nations including India, met at Trivandrum Travancore State during May-June 1947 and submitted a report to the Director General. F.A.O., Printed copies of the report in sufficient numbers have not yet become available and a copy will be sent to the provincial Government as soon as they are receive from the F.A.O.

2. It may however be mentioned that the Group could not produce an unanimous report. The points on which there was general agreement were (i) international allocation of rice was necessary for sometime and (2) continuous and co-ordinated study, research, collection and dissemination of information on rice and periodical consultation by means of a permanent interna tional organization were necessary. Other-wise there were two points of view, One sponsored by the Indian Delegation and the other by countries like the U.S.A. and U.K. The Indian Delega- tion pressed the view that the allocation of the rice now made the I.E.P.C. and long-term measures on the side of production a distribution both internal and international should be entrusted to a Rice Board situated in South East Asia and consisting main though entirely, of the major rice producing and consuming coun ries of the world. The present arrangement was unfair to the South East Asian Countries in as much as they were not adequate represented on the Rice Study Group where as countries like the U.S.A., U.K. and the other European countries were over repre- sented. Rice being mainly an Asiatic ceral it was considerad that measures designed to increase production and consumption rice should be dealth with in the area itself. The formation of a Rice Board on these lines has also the approval of the Inter-asian Relations Conference which was held in Delhi.

The other view advocated by U.S.A. and European members of the Group, however, was that during the period of short supply the allocation of rice should dontinue to be ~~dom~~

cont.

done by the I.E.P.C. which, in their opinion, was in a better position to co-ordinate the supply of all cereals. They were opposed to a mulpilicity of international organization and consequently in their view all that was required was an expansion of the existing facilities for the collection, collation and dissemination of statistical and technical information. For this purpose a re-organization of the F.A.O Secretaiat , the setting up of a Regional Office of the F.A.O somewhere in South East Asia, and the establishment of a permanent Rice Study Group or Committee, which should be a world body and not a regional body, to conduct a continuous study of the problems processing and distribution, were suggested.

2. On the production, conservation of available supplies of rice, consumption and nutrition, improvements in domestic marketing crop forecasting, market intelligence, transportation and milling facilities, price polices, international trade in rice, research and extension, exchange of information etc., the Study Group made several recommendations for improvements as per list enclosed. The Study Group felt that many of the recommendations which involved commitments could be translated into practice only after they have been considered at Government levels. The recommendations which involve such commitments are indicated by the words "Governmental Action" or "G.A" within brackets. The Rice Study Group did not attempt to frame a seriatim agenda for the rice conference. It was felt that the report as a whole and the specific recommendations made will form a suitable agenda. It has been suggested, however, that the main agenda of the rice conference may be as follows.

"Whether an international organisation should be formed and if so (a) its composition (b) its functions (c) its location (d) its staff and (e) action to be taken on the recommendations of the Rice Study Group in regard to rice problems in all its aspects."

4. The Report of the Rice Study Group was considered at the Third Session of the Food and Agricultural Organization Conference held during August-September, 1947 at Geneva, and it was decided that a Rice Conference should be held in South-East Asia to consider the report of the Rice Study Group and take decisions on the question whether an international organization should be formed to deal with rice production etc. All member Governments of the F.A.O will be invited to send representatives to this Conference. The World Food Council of the F.A.O. which has been recently formed as an Executive Body to deal with all emergent matters between annual conferences of the F.A.O. has decided that the Rice Conference should be held at Bangkok beginning on the 28th. February, 1948.
In order to enable the Government of India suitably to brief the delegation to be sent to attend the conference the Provincial Governments are requested to offer their comments on the following.

(1) Whether a Rice Board should beset up in South East Asia, consisting of the major rice producing and consuming countries to deal with the short-term and long-term problems of rice allocation, production etc.

(2) If the Board is to be set up what should be its compositions and functions.

Cont

(3) Whether the Provincial Government generally agree with the recommendations of the Rice Study Group (Vide list forwarded) on production, conservation of available supplies etc., particularly these involving commitments and whether the Indian Delegation can express the view at the Rice Conference that the recommendations will be implemented by Governments in India as far as possible.

I am to add that the Government of India would be grateful if the Views of the Provincial Government are sent by the SEcond week of January, 1948.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant

Sd/ .....
Deputy Secretary
to the Government of
India.

Recommendations of the International Rice Study Group. Trivandrum

LAND DEVELOPMENT AND RECLAMATION

(1) The definition of cultivable waste lands as reported in official statistics needs to be expressed more precisely. (Governmental Action)

(2) Detailed surveys of such land are needed in all countries of Asia. In carrying out such surveys it is desirable that at least one member of the survey party should be qualified to assess land-use caabilities. The services of a health expert and an antimalarial expert are also clearly required. (Governmental Action)

(3) In India sepcifically and in other countries generally, the control of diseases such as malaria is an essential beginning to the settlement of reclaimed lands. Equally important is the provision of an adequate supply of clean drinking water (G.A).

(4) Special stress must be laid on the development of effective irrigation and drainage projects, both in the interests of malaria control and as a measure of elimination of excess of water.(G.A)

(5) Clearance of scrub jungle and of deep-rooted grasses which usually infest cultivable waste lands can best be undertaken through organized machine depots. These necessitate large fleets of tractors and suitable implements for land reclamation work, and provisions for their proper maintanance and operations. The cost of such reclamation work cannot be expected to be repaid by the new settlers except on a long term extended payment basis. In any case, in the interests of increased production, the repayment of the capital expenditure required for the reclamation of such areas should not be a condition for the undertaking of such reclamation work.

(6) Large supplies of heavy machinery both for reclamation and drainage projects are urgently needed in Southeast Asia. The study Group recommends that manufacturing countries be requested to give high priorities to production of such machinery, and that it be made available to those countries with the greatest need through an international organisation dealing with rice.

Cont.

STORAGE, PARBOILING AND MILLING.

1. With a view to effecting the maximum economy in storage and elimination lossess through depreciation and infestation, rice should be stored as far as practicable in the form of well dried paddy;(G.A)

2. FAO should arrange to pool all information relating to research on rice storage and , if necessary, initiate further studies on the subject and advise member countries as to the practicability of eliminating storage loseses:

3. A large percentage of the rice supply should be parboiled since such rice keeps ~~rie~~ in good condition for longer periods.,

4. The comsumption of parboiled rice or rice treated by similar methods and having higher nutritive value should be encourage by Governments, since such rice has distinct advantages over lightly milled or hand-pounded rice; (G.A)

5. An international body should extend research work on the methods of premilling rice treatmmnt and should issue an authoritative report on the relative merits of various processes

LOSSES IN TRANSPORTATION AND DISTRIBUTION

Many thousands of tens of rice are lost during movement and distribution through theft, careless handling, and poor packing. The Governments should take steps that these losses are minimized as quickly as possible. The furnishing of adquate police protection and trained handlers at leading and unloading centers would help reduce lossess in transportation. Disinfestation and other effective measures for the maintenance of rice in good condition during transit should be undertaken. (G.A)

Losses by Smuggling:

Effective masures through international co-operation should be taken to prevent smuggling of rice. Movement of rice by Sea from one district to another should be prohibited except under license Compulsory registration of stocks and licensing of mills should be instituted. Reports on all movements of paddy and rice should demanded.

CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION.

2. Information should be assembled by FAO regarding the rations of rice, (b) the rations of other cereals and other foods, (c) the amounts actually consumed (d) the percent availability of all cereals, in all rice-deficit territories; and

2. In rice-comsuming territories where the the rice ration has fallen to avery low level, the extent and effects of enforced changes in dietary habits should be studied and reported to FAO for disemination to member countries. (G.A)

3. Each member country should be called uponto submit information regarding nutritional studied on rice to FaO and that the information should be transmitted by FAO to other countries; and (G.A)

4. FAO should call an emergency meeting of nutritional experts who have specialized in rice (a) to initiate studies to determine the comparative values of ~~different types of rice produced in different parts of the world; and (b)~~

different types of rice produced in different parts of the world, and (b) to recommend the most suitable method of conserving and increasing the nutritional value of rice.

The study of the effect of increasing purchasing power upon consumption trends be under taken by member Governments and reported to FAO for dissemination; and (G.A).

FAO and member- Governments should study the effect upon future demand of the dietary changes brought about by the scarcity of rice. (G.A)

IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE.

Member Governments should take necessary steps to ensure that.

1. timely supplies of water are made available for the successful cultivation of the crop from existing irrigation sources; G.A)

2. New irrigation projects planned for the development of ricelands should be undertaken(G.A)

3. All new irrigation projects should be so constructed as to provide adequate draingae simultaneously with th execution of the irrigation projects. (G.A)

MANURES AND CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS.

1. In India, China, Japan, and Korea where marked increase in production or rice should be attained, special attention must be given to the expansion of fertilizer producing capacity, and

2. In view of the world shortage of nitregenous fertilizers it should be brought to the attention of the I B F C that further allocations of nitregenous fertilizers intended for rice production in South East Asia should consist of sulphate of ammonia in preference to other forms of chemical nitregen.

PLANT BREEDING.

FAO should prepare a catalogue showing the breeding stocks available in the various countries briefly describing their agronomic characteristics, their disease resistance quality and other desirable features for the use of rice-breeders throught the world.

MANPOWER.

1 In countries where critical labour shortages exist, the problem may be solved by partial or complete machanization of cultural and harvest-threshing operations wherever practicable in relation to farm economics; and (G.A)

2. In order to avoid mostly failures, continous consultation and exchange of information on the development of farm tools and machines in urgently needed.

LAND TENURE

1. The cultivator of the land must be given his rightful share of the benfits from the lands; (G.A)

Cont.

2. Member Governments should work toward a situation whereby holdings would be of an economic size for each cultivator and his family. Holdings should not be fragmented (G.A)

3. Alternative occupational opportunities should be provded to absorb surplus agricultural workers. (G.A)

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT.

1. Credit at low inerest rates, both short and long term should be provided, preferably through co-operatives or agricultural banks, in all the rice-producing countries, in Asia, to meet the gennuine needs of the cultivators. (G.A)

2. Any credit programmes developed under government sponsorship should enable the farmer to satisfy all his bonafide financial needs from a single source. (G.A)

IMPROVEMENTS IN DOMESTIC MARKETING AND DISTRIBUTION.

STANDARDIZATION OF TERMS.

1. Following definitions should be tentatively adopted by member- countries; and(G.A)

2. FAO should submit these definitions to a committee of millers and traders for examination with a view to promoting their general adoption in international marketing and statistical reporting.

PADDY OR ROUGH RICE. Rice with husks on and without any portion of the stalk, as it comes from the farm.

HUSKED RICE ON BROWN RICE. Rice from which the husk only has been removed.

MILLED RICE:- Rice which has had the husks, germs, and bran-layers partially or wholly removed. It includes brekens.

HAND PHOUNDED RICE:- Rice from which the husk, germs, and bran layers have been partially removed without use of power machinery. It includes brekens.

RAW RICE X :- Rice which is milled or hand-pounded from paddy, which has not been given any heating treating ment.

BOILED RICE:- Rice milled or hand-pounded from paddy, which has been soaked in water and heated by steam or some other means.

POLISHED RICE:- Milled rice from which the husks, germs, and all bran layers have been wholly removed and which has been polished.

COATED RICE :- Rice which has been coated with glucose or talc or any other foreign substance.

WHOLE RICE :- Milled or hand-pounded rice consisting entirely of whole grains and grains not smaller than three-fourths brokens.

BROKENS:- Broken rice kernels with sizes bigger than one-fourth and smaller than three-fourths of whole grains.

BRUDEL RICE OR BRAGMENTS:- Pieces of broken kernels of milled rice smaller than one-fourth of whole grains.

Cont.

RICE HUSKS.- The outer covering of the rice kernels. Husks are equivelent to "hulls" or "Chaff".

Rice Bran:- the outer bran layers and germs.

RICE POLISHING :- the inner bran layers, with small percentage of the starchy interior of the grain.

STANDARD WEIGHTS AND MEASURES:-

1. As a first step towards securing a fair price for the producer and facilitating trade, each country should take necessary action to introduce and establish standard weights and measures for rice. (G.A)

2. for purposes of international statistics each country should report its statistics of production and international trade in metric tons and those for area in ~~KKKK~~ hectares. (G.A)

GRADING: -

1. Each country should take the necessary measures to establish standard grades for different qualities of rice if there have not already been established. (G.A)

2. FAO through its member countries should arrange for wide acceptance of the standard grades for rice entering international trade.

CROP FORECASTING AND ESTIMATING:

1. Each country should initiate improvements in its system of crop forecasting and estimating so that periodical and timely reports can be issued as to area, size and conditions each crop in each important producing section. In doing so, each government may desire to designate a commission of statistical experts to examine the crop forecasting and statistical methods now employed and to develop and test the improved methods recommeded. (G.O)

2. FAO should examine the methods adopted in different countries for recording statistics of area and for estimating. Estimating standard or normal yields and total production, as also the methods that have recently been evolved in different countries for improvement accuracy of these statistices, and should recommend as far as possible some uniform system that could be advantageously used in different countries and

3. As a guiding principle, sampling methods should be employed for such pruposes, in order to attain a wider coverage and greater accuracy in results. (G. A)

MARKET INTELIGENCE:-

FAO should arrange for the collection, collection and disemination of the necessary statistical information on planted area, yields, preauction, prices, stocks, and trade movements, particularly from the point of view of international trade

AGRICULTURAL CENSUS AS A BASIS FOR CROP ESTIMATING:-

All Governments which could do so should make preparatory provisions immediately for (a) taking an enumerative census of agriculture, within the next three years, and (b) that, in preparation for such census work, each government should select a group of key census officials and give them at least six months intensive training in modern census methods and techniques. (G.A)

P.T.O

REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM:

Each member country should inform FAO of its detailed requirements, for dissomination to those countries that have facilities to aid in rehabilitating transportation, and that FAO submit this information to the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East for consideration (G.A)

GROWERS COOPERATIVES AND OTHER MEASURES TO IMPROVE MARKETING AND CREDIT:

1. All countries should pay due attention to the development of co-operative marketing systems which must be considered as a great help in improving the marketing conditions for the farmer and (G.A)

2. more information is needed on the systems of co-operative organizations in countries where they are in an advanced stage of development, and that FAO should help in collecting and disseminating this information.

PRICE POLICIES
STABILIZATION OF INTERNAL PRICES:

Member countries should submit to the FaO information regarding national experiences with guranteed prices and an account of the basis on which they were calculated for dissemination to all member countries. (G.A)

INTERNATIONAL PRICE AGREEMENTS:

FAO or other appropriate international organizations should take steps to organize and conduct basic studies and

1. the changing pattern of supply and demand factors, market and trade conditions, transport and shipping situation and comsumption and nutritional requirements of rice;

2. the present day price stucture of rice, and ways and means of coordinating the price policies of the surplus and a deficit countries; and

3. the economic problems relating to stablization of rice prices, including the analysis of stabilization technique through a system of maximum and minimum prices.

RESEARCH AND EXTENSION:

1. Rice research should be undertaken on an international basis and should include studies on cultural practices, irrigation, drainage, rotation, manuring, and breeding. These studies should be coordinated internationally, so that each country on benefit by the results.

2. FAO should establish a system for the exchange of knowledge on selection and hybridization work on rice. By this means, the use of pedigree seeds could be made on a wide scale to considerable economic advantages.

3 Any international bedy given the responsibility to deal with the rice production problems should undertake without delay to dissenminate information on the availability of improved seed supplies. It should also collect, maintain, and exchange seeds of new varieties and of old indignous varieties for purposes of facilitating further improvement in breeding,

Cont.

4. The research institutions should keep such other constantly advised of new research undertaken, the progress on existing projects, and the results achieved. (G.A)

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION.-

All countries should make arrangements for their publications, reports, and data to be transmitted to FAO immediately upon relense. Such materials should include historical information; statistical data; crop and livestock estimates; and publications, periodicals, and techinical papers or bulletins relating to rice and to the general agricultural economy. Special consideration should be given to materials that are useful for centralized research and analysis and for participating countries. (Government Action)

D.O.No.F-16-71/47-Policy
Ministry of Agriculture.
New Delhi, 1. 1948.

My dear Satthianadhan,

Sub: Rice Conference in South East Asia

Please refer to this Ministry official letter No:F-16-71/47- Policy, dated the 30th December, 1947 on the subject mentioned above asking for the views of the Provincial Government on the proposed Rice Conference to be held in South East Asia. We have since received intimation that the Rice Conference is likely to be held at Baguio - (Phillipines) with effect from the 1st March 1948. I shall be grateful, therefore, if you will kindly send your views as early as possible so as to enable us suitably to brief the Indian Delegation.

A copy of the report of the Rice Study Group is sent herewith for your information.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. (H.C.Sharma)

Deputy Secretary to
The Government of India.

W.R.Satthianadhan, Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Development Department,
Madras.

Development Department.

D.O.No.3514-AIII/48 dated 8-1-48

Sub: Agriculture - Grow More Food
Rice Conferences in South East Asia.

Ref:- Government Memo No.3514 AIII/48 d/8-1-48

In continuation of the Memo cited I am to enclose a copy of Demi Official from the Government of India. No. F-16-71/47- Policy dated 1.1948. and to request you to expedite the Board's report.

A copy of the report of the Rice Study Group is

P.T.O

~~is~~ sent herewith. It may kindly be returned with your reply.

d/ x x x x x
21-1-48.

To
V.S.Hejmadin Esq.,I.C.S.,
Commissioner of Civil Supply,Madras.
Copy to Director of Agriculture.
Copy to Chief Engineer
Copy to Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
Copy to Director of Vetirinery Services.
Copy to Director of Public Instructions.

Development Department.

D.O.No.3514 AIII/48, Dated .....

Sub:- Rice Conference in South East Asia at Bangok in February 1948.

Ref:- Memo No. 3514 AIII/48-1 , dated 8-1-48.

I am to request you to expledite the report called for in the memo cited as the Government of India wanted a ~~re~~ reply by the second week of January 1948.

Sd.....
17-1-48.

To
V.S. Hajmadi Esq., I.C.S.,
Commissioner Civil Supplies.
Copy to Director of Agriculture.
Copy to Chief Engineer.
Copy Registrar Co-opertive Societies.
Copy to Director of Veternery Services
Copy to Director of Public Health.

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AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

From
M.S.Sivaraman, Esqr. I.C.S.,
Director of Agriculture,
Chepauk, Madras.

To
The Secretary to the [illegible]
Commissioner,
Board of Revenue (Civil-Supplies)
Chepauk, Madras.

No. E.1.38/48 dated 19th January 1948.

Sir,

SuB: Agriculture Grow More Food - Rice Conference in South East Asia
Ref:- Government Development Department Memo No. 3514, AIII/47-1 dated 8-1-48.

I offer the following remarks on the three points mentioned in paragraph 4 of the Government of India's letter communicated with the Government's memo cited above.

I ~~XXXXXX~~agree to the suggestion that a Rice Boar should be set up in South East Asia. The Board should consist of all countries which are chiefly interested in growing rice. The function of the Board is indicated in para 1 of the Gover-

Cont.

Government of India's letter. The answer to point (3) of para 4 of Government of India's letter may be furnished by Government and I am of opinion that the subjects dealt with in the "Recommendations of the International Rice Study Group- Trivandrum" are essential for stepping up production and for efficient disposal or distribution of rice.

M.S.Sivaraman
Director of Agriculture.

Copy submitted to the Secretary to Government, Development Department, Madras

/True copy/ Forwarded / By order.

***

BOARD OF REVENUE (CIVIL SUPPLIES

Subject.

Agriculture- Grow More Food - Rice Conference to be held at Bangkok on 28-2-1948 to consider the report of the Rice Study Group of the Food and Agricultural Organisation - Government of India letter F.16-71/47- Policy dated 29.12.47 - Remarks.- SUBMITTED

Ref. No.E.4877/48-4-(CS) dated 24-1-48

From

V.S.Hejmadi Esq., I.C.S.
Commissioner of Civil Suppl:

N.S.Mani Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Commissioner of Civil Supplies

Read: from the Government, Development Department, Memo 3514 AIII/47-1 dated 8-1-48.

The Board submits that the points mentioned in para 4 of the Government of India's letter dated 29-12-1947 and the recommendations of the International Rice Study Group Trivandrum, were considered at a conference of the Heads of Departments convened by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies on 20-1-1948 so that an agreed report could be sent to the Government. The decisions arrived at the Conference on the questions raised in paras 4 (1) (2) and (3) of the Government of India letter are furnished below:-

Para 4 (1) of the Government of India's letter.

Whether a Rice Board should be set up in South East Asia consisting of the major Rice producing and consuming countries to deal with the short and long term problems of Rice Allocations, productions etc.,

The important rice producing and consuming countries are in the South East Region of Asia. The production of rice in this region particularly in Indo-China and Burma, has been disrupted by the ravages of the recent World War II. Moreover, there are millions of people whose sole means of livelihood is by the cultivation of rice. In order to lay down a coordinated policy to examine the several aspects of production, distribution, price etc., of rice so as to bring about the re-habilitation of these countries, and to build up adequate reserves for the prevention of famines and to improve the living conditions of the cultivator, the Conference felt that a Board consisting of all the major rice producing and consuming countries in South EAst Asia.

Asia was a prime necessity:-

Para 4 (2) of the Government of India letter : If the Board is to be set up, what should be its compsition and functions?

The Conference felt that if the Board is constituted, it should work as a Sub Committee of the Food and Agriculture Organisation. It considered it unnecessary to make any specific recommendation as regards the strength of the Rice Board. The Conference was of the opinion that more than 25 members would make the body unwieldy and unsuitable for effective deliberations as a Sub-Committee of the Food and Agriculture Organisation. The Commissioner of Civil Supplies however considers that there may be 50 member s as 25 may be too small a number in view of the number of countries involved The basis of the representation may be left to the Food and Agriculture Organisation, but the Conference recommended that in addition to the Rice producing countries, suitable representation be given to other, be given to other countries such as the United States of America, the United Kingdom etc., which help in the production of rice by supplying chemical and organic manures and tractors and finished farm implements. The allocation of these may also be a function of the Rice. The bulk of the representation, however, should go to the chief rice producing countries in South East Asia.

As regards the functions of the Board, the Conference considered that it will have to deal with all problems relating to rice. If it is to be useful, it should (i) maximise production, (ii) cake over from the International Emergency Food Council the business in the matter of rice allocations and have all the powers to arrange for the equitable distribution of available supplies of rice by careful assessment of surpluses and deficits, (iii) examine the question of parity prices and (iv) have something like a South East Asia Rice Bank as reserve with branches conveniently located.

Para 4 (3) of the Government of India letter; Recommendations of the International Rice Study Group. Land development and Relamation.

(1) The statistics in use at present contain information only inregard to uncultivable lands, including fallow. Particulars as to how much of these lands are cultivable waste lands and what may be the definition of cultivable waste lands are not available. The Conference felt the need for precise expression of the definition and for Governmental Action to localise and separately record the cultivable waste lands.

(2) Details surveys are already being conducted in the case of all large projects:

(3) and (4) These are also being done.

Storage, Parboiling and Milling:

(1) On the basis of past experience, the Conference felt that the recommendation to store rice in the form of well dried paddy as far as practicable with a view to effecting the maximum economy in storage and eliminating losses through depreciation and infestation should be agreed to in its entirety. The general principle should be that reserves (roughly quantities exceeding 3 months requirements) should be in the form of paddy.

Cont.

(2) The Conference agreed to this recommendation and considered that it may be worth while to have high level experts to study these problems and offer advice.

(3(and (4) : In this Province, both raw and parboiling rice is consumed by the people. While the Conference endorsed the view that parboiled rice is better than raw rice, it was of the opinion that prejudices die hard. Endeavour will have to be made for a switchover.

(5) No remarks

Losses in Transportation and Distribution:

The Conference, while accepting the recommendation of the Rice Study Group, felt however, that losses in transit were not mainly for the Provincial Government to deal with. While adequate caution can be assured at points of loading, unloading, and storage by the Provincial Government, it considered that it might be suggested to the Government of India that they should impress on the Railways the necessity for an equal measures of care by the latter during transit.

Losses by smuggling: All the methods recommended have been adopted already in this Province. But all the preventive measures will be withdrawn when decontrol in all the districts is completed during the year in accordance with the general policy of the Government of India. The Conference was thereere fore of the opinion that the Provincial Government might agree to abide by the special restrictions if any which the Government of India may propose in due course on illicit movements.

Consumption and Nutrition: No remarks.

Irrigation and Drainage : All the points mentioned are invariably being attended to in any project.

Manures and Chemical fertilizers:

The recommendation were agreed to.

Plant Breeding: The recommendations were agreed to

Man Power: The conference was of the opinion that political agreements should be negotiated wherever possible for assisting the temporary migration of labour from an adjoining country to a rice producing country (Burma Siam and Malaya for instance) to tide over periods of man power shortage.

Land Tenures:

Recommendation (1) has been gone into in detail by the Special Officer on Land Tenures (Mr.K.Raghavandra Rao) in his report recently submitted to Government Action has been taken as regards (2) and (3) as and when possible.

Agricultural Credit:

The recommendations were agreed to.

Standardisation of Terms:

The Conference was of opinion that the definition of terms as suggested by the Rice Study Group may be agreed to except in the following cases:-

~~Standard weights and Measures:-~~

P.T.O.

Standard weights and Measures:-

In Northern India, rice goes by weight while in Southern India it goes by measure which is confusing Therefore there should be either standard weights or standard measures, THROUGHOUT India and NOT both. The Conference therefore felt that the proposal for uniform weights (or measures) for rice throughout India should be pressed.

Crop Forecasting and Estimating:

The Conference accepted the recommendations under this head. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research had already initiated crop cutting experiments an paddy or wheat on an uniform basis in all the Province s by the method of random sampling. The estimates of production arrived at by this method are intended to serve as a check on the existing estimates by the subjective method apart from affording the neccessary data for the revision of the existing figures of normal yield per acre.

MARKET Intelligence:

The Recommendations were agreed to

Agricultural census as a basis for crop estimating:

The recommendations were agreed to. In this connection, the Conference expressed the desirability of constituting a Central Organisation for Statistics as census of agriculture cannot be sucessful in the absence of a large body of trained statisticians working in the districts under the direction and control of a Central Organisation.

The Conference also agreed with the other recommendations of the Rice Study Group.

Sd.....
For Secretary.

To
The Secretary to Government, Development, Department, Madras.
Copy to Secretary to Government, Food Department, Madras.
Copy to the Director ofAgriculture, Madras.
Copy to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Madras.
Copy to the Director of Public Health, Madras.
Copy to the Director of Veterinary Services, Madras.
Copy to the Chief Engineer, (P.W.D) General, Irrigation, Buildings and Defence) Madras.
Copy to the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Madras.
Copy to the Statistics Section, Board of Revenue, Madras.

Letter Ms.No. 590. Dated 6-2-48

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Agriculture,
New Delhi.

Sir,

SUBJECT:- Rice Conference in South East Asia
Ref:- Your Department's letter No.F.16-71/47 Policy Dated 29-12-47.

I am directed to communicate to the Government of India the following remarks of this Government on the three points mentioned in para 4 of the letter cited.

Point (1):- Whether a Rice Board should be set up in South East Asia consisting of the major rice producing and consuming countries do deal with the short and long term problems of rice allocations, productions etc., The Government of Madras consider that a Rice Board in South East Asia is a prime necessity.

Point (2):- If the Board is to be set up what should be its compositions and functions. The Government of Madras are of the opinion that if the Board is to be constituted, it should work as a Sub-Committee of the Food and Agricultural Organization. As regards the strength of the Rice Board, though more than 25 members will make the body unwieldy and unsuitable for effective deleberations as a Sub-Committee of the Food and Agricultural Organization, it has been suggested that there might be 50 members in view of the number of countries involved. The basis of the requesentation may be left to the Food and Agricultural Organization, but it is suggested that in addition to the rice producing countries suitable representation may be given to other countries such as U.S.A. U.K.etc., which help in the production of rice by supplying chemical and organic manures and tractor and finished farm implements. The allocation of these may also be a function of the Rice Board. The bulk of the representation however should go to the chief rice producing countries in South East Asia.

As regards the function of the Board, the Government of Madras are of the opinion that it should deal with all problems relating to rice. If it is to be useful, it should (i) maximise production, (ii) take over from the International Emergency Food Council the business in the matter of rice allocations and have all the powers to arrange for the equitable distribution of available supplies of rice by careful assessment of surplus and deficits (iii) examine the question of parity prices and (iv) have some thing like a South East Asia Rice Bank as a reserve with branches conveniently located.

Point (3):- Whether the Provincial Government generally agree with the recommendation of the Rice study Group and will implement them as far as possible:- The Government of Madras generally agree with the recommendations and will implement them as far as possible

2. I am to add that the Madras Government would like that a representative of the Province is associated

Cont.

with the Indian delegation to the Rice Conference in South East Asia to be held at Bagried (Phillipines) from 1-3-48.

Sd.....
3-2-48.

Copy to the Board of Revenue.
Copy to the Director of Agriculture.
Copy to the Chief Engineer
Copy to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
Copy to the Director of Veterinary.Service.
Copy to the Direcrot of Public Health..

No.F-16-71/47-Policy.
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture.

New Delhi. dated 21st February, 1948

From

J.V.A.Nehemiah, Esq., M.A.,
Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.
New Delhi.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Development Department
Madras.

Sir,

Sub:- Rice Conference in South East Asia

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter No.Ms.590 dated the 6th February 1948 on the subject mentioned above.

On the question of including a representative of the Madras Province in the Indian Delegation to the Rice Conference I am to say that in view of the Foreign Exchange difficulties, it is necessary to keep the strength of the delegation to the barest minimum. On this view, only four officials at Government level are being sent to the Conference and no Provincial Representatives have been included. I may, however, add that Dr.V.N.Patwardhan Director, Nutrition Research Laboratories, Coonor has been included as one of the four delegates to the Conference.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Sd.....
(J.V.A.Nehemiah)
Assistant Secretary to the Goverr
ment of India.

Development Department.
Letter No. 2255 AIII/48-1 dated 4-3-48.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi.

Sir,

~~Sub:- Agriculture Grow More Food -- Rice Conference~~

Sub:- Agriculture - Grow More Food - Rice Conference in South East Asia.
Ref:- Mr. Nahemiah's letter No.F-16-71/47 Policy, dated 21-2-48.

***

I am directed to request that the Government of India may be good enough to furnish a copy of the proceedings of the Conference of the report of the Indian Delegation in due course.

Sd.....
4-3-48.

Development Department.

SuB:- Agriculture - Grow More Food - Rice Conference in South East Asia.

Ref:- From the Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture, Letter F.16-71/47, Policy dated 21-2-48.

To A.S.

In para 2 of our letter No. 590 dated 6-2-48, it was suggested to the Government of India, that a representative of this Province may be associated with the Indian Delegation to the Rice Conference in South East Asia to be held at Baguio (Phillipines) with effect from 1st March 48. In their letter No. F.16-71/47 Policy dated 21-2-48 at page 1 f. the Government of India have stated that in view of foreign exchange difficulties it is necessary to keep the strength of the delegation to the barest minimum possible. On this view only 4 officials at Government level are being sent to the Conference and no Provincial representatives have been included . It is however stated that Dr. V.N.Patwarthan Director, Nutrition Research Laboratory, Coonoor has been included as one of the 4 delegates to the Conference For orders whether any further action is called for.

Sd..... ....
26-2-48.

No action seems necessary. The names of the official delegates have not been given(it does not appear to have come out in the press). The Government of India may be asked to furnish a copy of the proceedings of the Conference or the report of the Indian Delegation in due course.

Sd.....
26-2-48.

Sri S.Y.K. I.C.S, told me that he is leading the Delegation.

Sd.....
K.M. 27-2-48.

To A.S.

Orders in circulation on page 1 above.

2. A draft letter to Government of India is submitted with reference to 'B' on page 1 above. After issue the papers may be stiched with G.O.Ms. 590 Development dated 6-2-48 at 'Z'.

sd

Development Department.

Sub:- Agriculture - Grow More Food - Rice Conference In South East Asia.
Ref:- From the Government of India No. F.16-71/47 Policy dated 29-12-47.

To A.S.

Please see the letter from the Government of India in the current file regarding the Rice Conference to be held at Bangkok beginning on the 28th February 1948. The Agenda for the conference is chiefly indicated at 'c' on page 3 c.f. The Government of India want the remarks of the Provincial Government.on the three points mentioned at 'A' on page 3-5 c.f. With reference to point 3 the list of recommendations of the Rice Study Group will be found on page 7-17 c.f. Against each recommendation. The departments of the Secretariat concerned are indicated. The heads of Departments concerned are with these recommendations. The Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) the Director Agriculture the Chief Engineer for irrigation , Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Director of Veterinary Service and the Director of Public Health. It would seem desirable to obtain a consolidated report from the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) in consultation with the other heads of Departments.concernd before sending a reply to Government of India. The Government of India require a reply by the 2nd week of January 1948. The Board of Revenue may be requested to send its remarks not later than 15-1-48. A draft Memo is submitted. After issue, the file may be sent to Food, Public Works Department, Revenue, and Education and Public Health, for perusal.

Sd.....
8-1-48.

In order to save time , Food alone may see at this stage. Advance copies of India's letter may be communicated to Hon'ble Minister (Agriculture) Hon'ble Minister (Food) and Hon'ble Premier.

Sd.....
12-1-48.

Food Department.

Please see the letter from the Government of India , Ministry of Agriculture on page 1-17 c.f. the Development Department note on page 1-2-above and the Endorsement to the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) on page 19 c.f.

May be perused and returned to Development. That Department will no doubt let this Department see the case again after the Board's report is recorded.

Sd.....
14-1-48.

Office.

Have advance copies been circulated as ordered at 'M' above. If not why?

Remind Board of Revenue etc. by D.O. and send interim reply to Government of India above to-day.

Sd.....
15-1-48.

To A.S.

A on page 2 ante:- Advance copies have since been circulated to Hon'ble Minister (Agriculture); Hon'ble Minister (Food) and Hon'ble Premier.

B on page 2 ante : A draft D.O. to the C.C.S and draft letter to the Government of India are submitted.

Sd.....
17-1-48.

Issued as D.O.No.3514AIII/48-s dated 21-1-48.
" D.O.No.3514AIII/48 dated 16-1-48.
" Letter No. 3514AIII/48 dated 16-1-48.
From the Director Ag: of Agriculture No. E.1.38/48 dated 19-1-48.
From the Government of India Tel.No.F.16-17/47 Policy, dated 28-1-48.
From the Board of Revenue (CS) No.E 4877/48-4 (CS) dated 24-1-48.

To A.S.

The Government of India have intimated that the proposed Rice Conference is likely to be held at Baguio, (Phillipines) with effect from 1-3-48. They have sent a second reminder by telegram for the views of this Government. They require the remarks of their government on the following three specific questions:

(1) Whether a Rice Board should be set up in South East Asia , consisting of the major rice producing and consuming countries to deal with the short term and long term problems of rice allocation production etc.

(2) If the Board is to be set up what should be its composition and functions.

(3) Whether the Provincial Government generally agree with the recommendations of the Rice Study Group and whether the Indian delegation can express the view at the Rice Conference that the recommendations will be implemented by the Governments in India as far as possible.

The Board of Revenue was asked to offer its remarks on the three points in consultation with the other Heads of Departments concerned. The Board has convened a Conference of the Heads of Departments concerned on 20-1-48 and submitted a report to Government. The views of the Board on the three points raised by the Government of India are noted on below:-

Point (1):- The Board agrees to the proposal for setting up a Rice Board in South East Asia as indicated in the letter of the Government of India. This Department may also agree to the proposal

Point (2):- The recommendations of the Conference of the Heads of Deparments concerned as indicated at 'a' on page 31-32 c.f. may be accepted and the Government of India informed accordingly.

Cont.

Point (3) :- The Conference of the Heads of Departments has generally agreed to the recommendation of the International Rice Study Group. The Government of India may be informed that this Government agree to implement the recommendations as far as possible.

A draft letter is submitted. It may issue after circulation (Advance copies of the letter from the Government of India on page 1-17 current file were circulated to HonBle Minister (Agriculture), Hon'ble Minister (Food) and Hon'ble Premier.

Sd.....
29-1-48.

/True copy/

for Superintendent,
Madras Record Office.

NG.22.

31.7